

Turkey and Louisiana: A Job-Creating Economic Partnership



Louisiana imports more from Turkey than from any other country in Eastern Europe.

In 2018, Louisiana imported \$62 million worth of goods and services from Turkey.

Louisiana is home to more than 1,000 Turkish Americans; many are small business owners. Most live in New Orleans.

Turkey imports more from Louisiana than any other country in Eastern Europe.

In 2018, Turkey imported \$515 million worth of goods and services from Louisiana.

Turkey is a major importer of rice and cotton. In 2010, 65% of all cotton exported from New Orleans went to Turkey.

Below are the locations of nine companies in Louisiana that have strong ties to Turkey.



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Louisiana has benefited greatly from its strong ties to Turkey. Turkish and Turkish-American companies and investments have brought in millions of dollars and hundreds of jobs for the people of Louisiana.



Aksa USA: West Monroe

- Aksa USA was founded in 2010 and is headquartered in West Monroe. It is the U.S. subsidiary of Aksa Power Generation, which founded as an electrical motor factory by Ali Metin Kazancı in 1968.
- The company produces electrical energy supply hardware, machinery, and gensets for diesel and natural gas.
- Aksa USA currently has 14 employees and an annual revenue of \$5.8 million.



Advanced Sinter Metal Technologies: Slidell

- Sinter Metal Technologies was founded in 1967 in Istanbul. The company is a global supplier and manufacturer of pipe metal and ceramic parts.
- In 2019, Sinter opened its plant in Slidell, making a total investment of \$5 million. The plant has 43 employees.



Taronis Technologies - Latex Welding Supply: Shreveport

- Taronis Technologies is a renewable fuel producer founded in 2018. In January 2020, the Turkish government invested \$20 million into the company as part of a joint venture in Turkey, where Taronis has a number of contracts.
- The company operates 22 locations across California, Texas, Louisiana, and Florida. In Louisiana, it owns Latex Welding Supply, Inc., which serves as welding supplier and gas distributor for the company.



Anatolia Mediterranean Cuisine: New Orleans

- This Turkish restaurant and catering business was opened in March 2018 by local Turkish-Americans who previously worked as chefs in Turkey.
- The restaurant has received great reviews and is especially popular among the Turkish community of New Orleans.



Cafe Istanbul: New Orleans

- Cafe Istanbul is a 3,800 square foot performance hall located in the New Orleans Healing Center due to open later this year. The location will provide a platform for local artists, musicians, dancers, comedians, and poets.
- The business is managed and owned by Suleyman Aydin, a local Turkish-American.

Similarly, companies from Louisiana have created strong business partnerships in Turkey.



Textron Systems: Slidell

- Founded in Louisiana, Textron Systems manufactures armoured vehicles, vessels, and weapons systems.
- Textron has supplied Turkey with sensor fuzed weapons as well as military and emergency helicopters



Pinnacle Polymers: Garyville

- Pinnacle Polymers produces injection molding, fiber extrusion, sheet and thermoforming, and copolymers.
- The company is based in Garyville, where it has two polypropylene plants and 122 employees.
- Pinnacle Polymers has a number of business partnerships in Turkey, which is its largest foreign market.



Aeroframe Services (AAR) - Lake Charles

- Aeroframe Services is an aircraft maintenance facility founded in 2005. It was acquired by AAR in 2013.
- It has 750 employees in Louisiana and provides services for the Turkish military and commercial airlines in Turkey.



Cheniere Energy - Sabine Pass

- Cheniere Energy's LNG facility in Sabine Pass has been in service since 2008 and has 1530 employees.
- The liquefaction generates \$6.52 billion in sales, and Turkey has emerged as one of its top customers.
- In January 2020 alone, Turkey imported approximately 17 billion cubic feet of natural gas from Sabine Pass.